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2. Training of technical teams to bring abandoned wells back into production.

3. Convening a conference of petroleum geology specialists to discuss expansion of the prospecting program and further Soviet aid in drilling.

At the first national conference of the petroleum industry in the New China Soviet specialists gave much valuable advice on prospecting, drilling, and refining, and especially in planning for future operations. They offered sincere constructive criticism of our plans and set forth important principles regarding techniques, based on their ample experience. This advice took into account Chinese capabilities in manpower, equipment, and technical skills. They rejected the KMT seasonal plan of well drilling as uneconomical and advised steady drilling even in winter. They claimed that with proper preparation drilling operations in winter are just as feasible and economical as in summer.

The developmental plan for the Chinese petroleum industry puts emphasis on the Northwest for the first 3 years. Foreign equipment is needed for this and the Soviet technicians have given good advice on the types of equipment needed and schedules of purchase so as to conserve precious foreign exchange. They also advised a policy of gradual development of domestically produced equipment as the only road for China to follow. They gave this advice in spite of the recognition that for the present such a plan would be more expensive than purchases abroad.

P'ING-HSIANG MINES TOP GOALS -- Shanghai, Ta Kung Pao, 16 Nov 50

Nan-ch'ang -- The various pits under the control of the state-operated P'ing-hsiang Mining Bureau in Kiangsi exceeded their October production goals by from 5.69 percent to 23.57 percent.

Before the beginning of the winter season speedup men were cutting 6 or 7 decimeters of coal a shift. This has been increased to 1 meter and 3 or 4 decimeters per man per shift.

CHIA-WANG MINES SHOW IMPROVEMENT -- Tsinan, Ta-chung Jih-pao, 17 Nov 50

The coal mines in the Chia-wang area of Kiangsu reached over 90 percent of their October quota with a production of 67,562 tons. The production per man per shift was 0.462 tons as compared with the September average of 0.395 tons.

The safety record of 13 persons injured was a considerable improvement over September when there were 66 persons injured. Certain pits had no casualties in October.

Savings in materials have also been effected. For instance, during October, only 2,163.8364 cubic meters of shoring timber was used, as compared with the estimated requirement of 11,045 cubic meters. The consumption of shoring timber was 0.032 cubic meters per ton of production.

SHANTUNG MINES IMPROVE PROCESSES -- Tsinan, Ta-chung Jih-pao, 17 Nov 50

The state operated mines in the Lin-l area of Shantung have, during the year, been shifting from scattered small-scale operations to centralized large-scale operations and progressive mechanization. Whereas heretofore removal of water from the mines by hand methods involved the employment of over 600 laborers, installation of power pumps has eliminated this labor cost, simultaneously improving the effectiveness of the process, and permitting continuous production.

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Production for the first 9 months of 1950 was 49,340 tons, nearly 3,000 tons over the goal. The longwall system of shaft digging has become thoroughly established during the year. The whole system of operational organization and safety provisions has been greatly improved.

NEW METHODS SUCCESSFUL IN TA-T'UNG MINES -- Shanghai, Chieh-fang Jih-pao,  
11 Nov 50

Peiping, 7 November -- Experiments in the coal mines around Ta-t'ung in Shansi, a phase of a general experimentation program being carried on by the state-operated coal mines of North China in the introduction of mechanization, have proved highly advantageous.

The direct coal production rate increased 53.8 percent in October, as compared with June production before the new methods were introduced. Production cost per ton has been reduced by 55 percent, as compared with June costs.

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